

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 07496 211150Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10
HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /125 W
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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7655
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AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 07496

E.O. 11652:GDS
TAGS: UNPFOR
SUBJECT: UN CONFERENCE ON SUCCESSION OF STATES IN RESPECT
- OF TREATIES

1. THE CONFERENCE PLENARY ADOPTED THE RESOLUTION ON
NAMIBIA BY 73-0-6, WITH THE U.S., UK, FRG, FRANCE
AND NETHERLANDS NOT PARTICIPATING. CANADA WAS ABSENT.
THE RESOLUTION, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, STIPULATES THAT
QUOTE SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT THE PREDECESSOR STATE OF THE
FUTURE INDEPENDENT STATE OF NAMIBIA UNQUOTE.

2. WESTERN CONTACT GROUP ALL FELT THAT NON-PARTICIPATION
WAS BETTER THAN ABSTENTION SINCE OUR BASIC POSITION WAS
THAT THE RESOLUTION WAS BEYOND THE COMPETENCE OF THE
CONFERENCE. ABSTENTION WOULD HAVE ASSUMED COMPETENCE TO
DEBATE THE MERITS.

3. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE VOTE THE DELEGATE FOR THE
COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA CAME OVER THE U.S. DEL AND SAID THAT
THE COUNCIL QUOTE FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE U.S. POSITION
UNQUOTE. WHILE THERE WERE A FEW ANGRY STATEMENTS FROM
AFRICAN STATES, ESPECIALLY MALI, WE BELIEVE THAT MOST
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DELEGATIONS APPRECIATED THE DIFFICULTY FOR US AND THE
OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONTACT GROUP. MOST STATEMENTS
WERE RELATIVELY MILD, AND ON BALANCE, THE EXERCISE WENT
AS WELL AS COULD BE EXPECTED.

4. THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ALSO ADOPTED BY 84-0-1
(IVORY COAST) A NEW ARTICLE 12, PARAGRAPH 3 AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRESENT ARTICLE DO NOT
APPLY TO TREATY OBLIGATIONS ACCEPTED BY THE PREDECESSOR
STATE AND PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FOREIGN
MILITARY BASES ON THE TERRITORY TO WHICH THE SUCCESSION
OF STATES RELATES UNQUOTE. THE US POSITION, CLEARED
WITH DOD, WAS THAT WHILE THIS INTERPRETATIVE CLAUSE IS
UNNECESSARY, WE HAD NO OBJECTION TO IT.

5. THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ALSO ADOPTED, BY 49-8-30,
U.S. RESOLUTION PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, RELATING TO IN-
COMPATIBLE TREATY OBLIGATIONS AS A RESULT OF A UNITING
OF STATES UNDER ARTICLE 30. BORG

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Message Attributes

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